

Statement of Work

USEPA – UNEP umbrella agreement 2015-2020

UNEP Sub-Programmes	Climate Change, Resource Efficiency, Chemicals and Waste, and Ecosystem Management
Title of Project:	Third five-year grant agreement between UNEP and the United States Environmental Protection Agency for support to promotion of cleaner fuels and vehicles, the implementation of the UNEA Air Quality Resolution, cooperation supporting the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP), International Chemical and Waste Partnerships, Approaches, and Conventions, International Resource Panel, food waste and climate change adaptation and resilience.
Geographical Scope:	Global, with activities in Africa, Latin America, Central & Eastern Europe, Asia Pacific, Latin America, Middle East & West Asia, and North America
Supporting Organizations	For Transport and Air Quality: PCFV partners organizations (75 members) For Mercury: Global Mercury Partnership
Duration of the Project:	Five years Commencing: 17 December 2015 Completion: 16 December 2020
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Maximum cost of Project: USD 1,59 Million, with initial installment of USD 303,000

This agreement provides an umbrella framework for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to work cooperatively with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on joint activities between 17 December 2015 and 16 December 2020. This is in line with the Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Environmental Protection Agency of the United States of America, signed on 21 February 2011. The initial focus of the planned collaboration will be work on air quality, resource efficiency/sustainable consumption and production, and chemicals that is managed by UNEP's Division of Technology, Industry, and Economics (DTIE). Other joint activities may also be incorporated into the agreement over time, potentially in partnership with other UNEP Divisions. With regard to quality assurance of collection and use of primary and secondary environmental data, DTIE commits to maintaining a standard of quality and using data collection methodologies that are in accordance with appropriate, internationally-recognized protocols and standards for any environmental data collection that is performed by UNEP or its subcontractors as part of the funded activities.

Focus Area 1: Transport and Air Quality

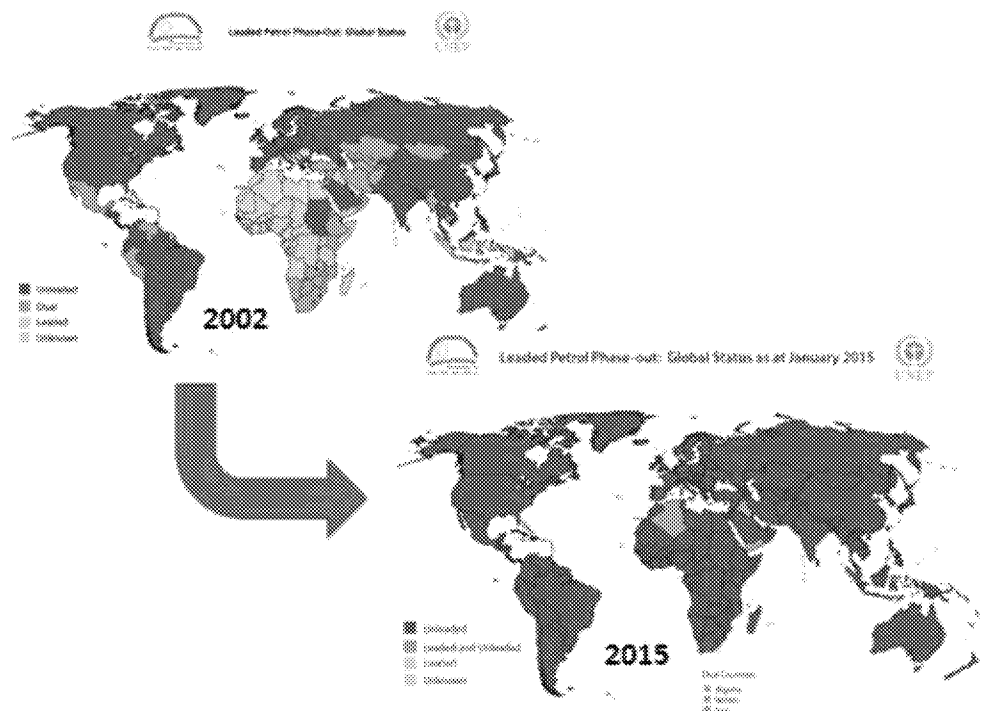
Introduction

The USEPA and UNEP have been closely working together to set up and develop the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV). The PCFV Secretariat is located in UNEP. Earlier USEPA grant agreements have supported PCFV activities.

The PCFV is supporting two main global campaigns:

- To phase out leaded gasoline and introduce cleaner, catalyzed, petrol vehicles;
- To reduce small PM emissions from diesel vehicles, esp. light duty, through the introduction of low sulfur fuels and cleaner diesel vehicles technologies.

The first campaign has been almost completed, to date only three countries still use leaded



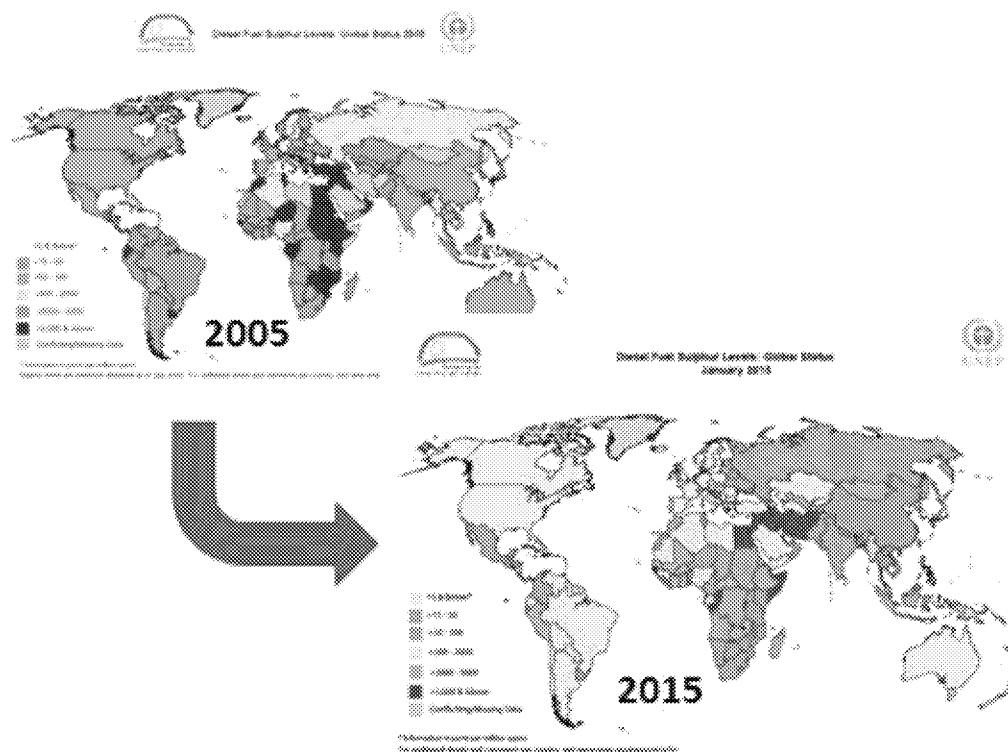
gasoline¹ and few, if any, non-catalyst equipped petrol vehicles are still produced. The PCFV played a leading role in the global elimination of leaded petrol. This has had major health benefits². And the PCFV has won major awards for this work³. An independent evaluation commissioned by the USEPA in 2012 highlighted the effective approach the PCFV used in the implementation of the PCFV leaded gasoline campaign. Much progress has also been made in the second campaign. In 2005 PCFV agreed that all countries world-wide should move to fuel sulfur levels of max 50 parts per million. Since that time 18 countries have achieved this end target to 50 ppm (or less), all with support from the PCFV Secretariat and partners. Many more have arrived at intermediate levels. There is now a global trend to move to low sulfur fuels. Only recently, with support of USEPA and other PCFV partners, the East African region, 6 countries, moved to low sulfur fuels. It is estimated that within the next 5 years, with PCFV support, 90% of the world market

will be able to achieve the introduction of low sulfur fuels of 50 ppm or less. At the same time countries are starting to adopt cleaner vehicles policies resulting in further reductions in air pollution and increased efficiency, with multiple benefits – health, climate, cost, energy/ oil dependence.

The current agreement outlines

continued support from the USEPA for the PCFV Secretariat to finish the two global campaigns. To complete the phase out of leaded gasoline in the remaining countries and the introduce low sulfur fuels in countries worldwide, hand –in-hand with support to introduction of cleaner and more efficient vehicles fleets.

In June 2014, the inaugural United Nations Environment Assembly, meeting at UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, adopted a Resolution, submitted by the US Government, to strengthen UNEP’s work in promoting better air quality. The Resolution calls on Governments and their partners to undertake action to improve air quality and report on progress. The Resolution calls on UNEP to support governments in improving their air quality through capacity building, develop assessments of initiatives and policies



¹ Yemen, Algeria and Iraq

² Hatfield study

³ Including a UN21 Award from the UN Secretary General in 2007 for best substantive UN programme

undertaken to improve air quality, provide data and information. It also calls on governments to report their efforts to UNEP for UNEP to provide a global report at the next UNEA session mid 2016.

The current agreement outlines continued support from the USEPA for UNEP to implement the UNEA Air Quality Resolution.

Proposal of Activities

Through this support project the US government will support UNEP activities to:

- 1- Support governments and their partners to introduce cleaner fuels and vehicles
 - a. Complete the global phase out of leaded gasoline;
 - b. Complete the global introduction of low sulfur fuels;
 - c. Support the introduction of cleaner and more efficient vehicles standards.
- 2- Support Governments, UNEP, and their partners to implementation the UNEA Air Quality Resolution.
 - a. Support capacity building activities to develop and implement policies and activities that will reduce air pollution;
 - b. Support UNEP to develop regional and global air quality policy gaps assessments.

Activities under 1 will include:

- Support to national country projects to phase out leaded gasoline (only 3 countries remaining)
- Support to national country projects to develop and implement roadmaps for the introduction of low sulfur fuels.

USEPA and UNEP will develop activities at global, regional, sub-regional and national level to support the introduction of low sulfur fuels. The objective is to have countries introduce low sulfur fuels of 50 ppm in the time frame of this project - five years. It is essential that the major momentum of today, with 18 low and middle income countries now having achieved 50 ppm or less and many more at intermediate levels, is maintained and strengthened to achieve this target. USEPA will work with UNEP, in cooperation of PCFV partners and under the PCFV umbrella, to support low and middle income countries develop national strategies and standards to introduce low sulfur fuels. We expect to support at least another 40-50 countries in the project timeframe.
- Support to countries to develop policies and standards for the introduction of cleaner and more efficient vehicles. We intend to support at least 50 additional countries. This can include support to develop policies to restrict the importation of used vehicles, to develop vehicle emissions standards, to develop tax incentives for cleaner/ more efficient cars, etc.

PCFV annual workplans will be adopted by the PCFV members, in their Global Partners Meetings, and implementation will include many PCFV partners, including the US EPA. Implementation will be overseen by the PCFV Advisory Group, in which the USEPA participates.

Activities will be implemented in close consultation with other relevant programs and initiatives, in specific the Global Fuel Economy Initiative, that is promoting more efficient vehicles fleets, and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, that has a Heavy Duty Diesel Initiative (in which USEPA and UNEP are co-leads) to reduce short-lived climate pollutants from heavy duty diesel vehicles.

Initial Activity: Reducing vehicles emissions in Costa Rica through improved fuel quality, adoption of vehicle standards and improved fuel economy

The Transport Unit of UNEP is working in Costa Rica to support the Ministry of Environment and Energy and key stakeholders to move to cleaner and more efficient fuels and vehicles. The current activities are being implemented by the UNEP strategic partner in Costa Rica, CEGESTI an environmental NGO, with additional technical support from the Centro Mario Molina Centre (CMMCh) and other partners of the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles and the Global Fuel Economy Initiative. These current activities include technical support to the national working groups on transport and the development of a baseline inventory on vehicle fuel economy.

USEPA support included in his project will allow UNEP to support Costa Rica to create an enabling environment that will lead to the development and implementation of cleaner fuels and vehicles policies, including a national fuel economy policy. Costa Rica will also serve as an example for the sub-region of Central America and the wider Latin America and Caribbean region.

The proposed activities to be implemented include: the development of vehicle emissions standards and tools to support the implementation of the standards; technical support to reduce the sulphur content of fuels, with a target of 15ppm or below in diesel; the development of a communications tool to provide fuel economy information, and demonstrate its benefits, in this case a labeling program, whereby vehicles are labeled to show their efficiency and operational costs to consumers to ensure fuel economy is considered when buying a vehicle; development of a national fuel economy program that meets the specifications of Costa Rica; cost-benefit analysis to support the adoption of vehicle emissions standards and guide decision makers on the impact of fuel economy policies proposed for Costa Rica.

The expected outcomes include fuel quality regulations, vehicle emission standards and fuel economy policies developed and presented for adoption; capacity building and sensitization of policy makers, consumers and stakeholders on the benefits of low sulphur fuels and cleaner, more efficient vehicles.

UNEP will work closely with USEPA staff members in the implementation of these activities.

Activities under 2 will include:

- Support to national country projects that will support capacity development to address air pollution, with a specific focus on urban air pollution;
- Support to UNEP to do regional air quality policy gap assessments;
- Support to UNEP to work with Governments to do a detailed global policy assessment, to report back to UNEA;
- Support to UNEP to strengthen and institutionalize UNEP capacity to support regional and national initiatives addressing better air quality;
- Support to UNEP and Governments to improve air quality data, monitoring and accessibility of air quality data.

Activities implemented by UNEP will strictly follow the UNEA-approved Air Quality Resolution.

Focus Area 2: Cooperation Supporting Resource Efficiency Efforts

2a. 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP)

The 10YFP serves as a global framework for action to enhance international cooperation and accelerate the shift towards Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). It was adopted by the international community at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in 2012 and endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly at its 67th session on 21 December 2012.

This agreement will support continuing cooperation between US EPA and UNEP in advancing the principle objectives identified in the 10YFP of “promoting social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems by addressing and, where appropriate, decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation by improving efficiency and sustainability in the use of resources and production processes and reducing resource degradation, pollution and waste”. The 10YFP generates collective impact through multi-stakeholder programmes and partnerships, which aim at developing and scaling up SCP policies and initiatives at all levels, fostering knowledge and experience sharing, and facilitating access to technical and financial resources for developing countries.

Both UNEP and EPA serve key roles in support of the 10YFP. UNEP has been requested to serve as the Secretariat of the 10YFP. As such, UNEP supports the coordination of the 10YFP at the international and regional levels, the participation of the 10YFP National Focal Points, the development and coherent delivery of the 10YFP programmes, as well as knowledge sharing and stakeholder outreach activities, including through the Global SCP Clearinghouse. UNEP, as implementing agency, also plays an active role in the 10YFP programmes as lead or as implementing partner for many of the programmes. EPA serves at the U.S. National Focal Point for the 10YFP, with responsibilities for interagency coordination regarding developments under the 10YFP, serving a principal liaison with the 10YFP Secretariat and 10YFP Board, and key collaborator on several 10YFP-related programs.

This work area is intended to provide an avenue for EPA and UNEP to continue cooperation, and accommodate the evolving array of potential work and international cooperation that may emerge as shared priorities supporting the key 10YFP objectives referenced above, as mutually agreed, and to the extent available resources allow. This includes 1) supporting sharing best practices and networking for SCP under the 10YFP; 2) cooperating and supporting programme development, including in the areas of Life Cycle Assessment and Thinking (Consumer Information); Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) and Sustainable Food Systems, with a focus on food waste reduction and recovery (SFS).

1. Supporting sharing of SCP best practices and networking under the 10YFP

One of the key functions of the 10YFP is to serve as a multi-stakeholder information and knowledge sharing platform. The aim is to catalyze cooperation for implementation, by providing multiple organizations and stakeholders the opportunity to exchange experience and lessons learned,

knowledge, tools and good practices, with a view of creating synergies, mainstreaming and scaling up successful policies and initiatives on SCP. Specific projects under this activity will include developing and enhancing the Global SCP Clearinghouse, supporting the collection and dissemination of SCP best practices, including through outlook surveys, development and publication of case studies, as well as engaging further the business and innovation sectors in the 10YFP programmes.

- Global SCP Clearinghouse: EPA will continue its work with UNEP in developing and enhancing the Global SCP Clearinghouse including through piloting and continued enhancement of a U.S. National 10YFP Profile. This UNEP-managed platform will provide an opportunity for EPA and other US agencies to disseminate information, tools, and capacity building resources related to the key programmatic efforts relevant to the 10YFP objectives. For the U.S., key programmatic priorities include pollution prevention, sustainable materials management, resource efficiency, and promoting sustainability in public procurement and government operations. The Global SCP Clearinghouse will serve as a platform for the identification and dissemination of SCP best practices, including through outlook surveys in cooperation with the 10YFP National Focal Points, analysis of successful initiatives and development of evidence-based, quantified case studies to be promoted in 10YFP publications and events.

- Engaging the business and innovation sectors: shifting towards SCP is an opportunity for innovation and business development. Business leaders and pioneers, creative entrepreneurs and investors have a key role to play in turning this opportunity into new market developments. It is one of the functions of the 10YFP to foster increased cooperation and networking among all stakeholders, including public-private partnerships, as well as to foster innovation and new ideas. Specific projects could include 10YFP global or regional workshops on business and innovation for SCP, bringing together sustainability business leaders, technological and social innovation networks, international business schools and the investment community to further document the business case for SCP in high-impact sectors, as well as to engage these key stakeholders in the implementation and promotion of the 10YFP programmes and activities.

2. Cooperating and supporting programme development

Programmes are at the core of the 10YFP. Five initial programmes have been developed, based on the initial and non-exhaustive list contained in A/CONF.216/5: Sustainable Public Procurement, Consumer Information, Sustainable Lifestyles and Education, Sustainable Buildings and Construction, and Sustainable Tourism. A sixth programme on Sustainable Food Systems was developed following a proposal submitted to the 10YFP inter-governmental Board and expression of support from several countries, including the U.S. through USEPA. Additional programmes may be included and developed under the 10YFP in the future, opening new cooperation opportunities on SCP for UNEP and USEPA.

- Life Cycle Assessment and Thinking.

UNEP and USEPA have embarked on a new cooperative efforts with other international partners through the recently created Governmental Forum on International LCA Cooperation. EPA and UNEP have also been partners in the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative. Activities under this

specific cooperation area could focus efforts to improve LCA data availability, database interoperability, tools development and capacity building to support such efforts. EPA could support UNEP, in its role as Secretariat for new international initiative, to facilitate international cooperative efforts to develop a global network of interoperable LCA databases, including support for governance and communications activities, and support to the initiative's Steering Committee in its development of, and interactions with, a Technical Advisory Group and task-oriented Working Groups addressing such areas as: Network Architecture and Technology, LCA Nomenclature, common Metadata Descriptors, or associated work on development of an LCA ontology or other technical or analytical needs as they may evolve.

Cooperation activities could also include projects to support consensus building on LCA impact indicators (water, biodiversity, human toxicity, ecological toxicity, resources, etc.), such as through the work of the UNEP-SETAC Life Cycle Initiative, with applications at many levels, including monitoring of performance at production (industry / sector / commodity, etc.) or organization (e.g. public procurement / national) levels.

- Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP): One key pre-requisites for achieving sustainability and creating the conditions for a green economy is to ensure that the public sector uses its purchasing power to drive the market for sustainable products and services: UNEP and EPA have been collaborating under the 10YFP SPP Programme to explore how innovative SPP approaches can foster the market uptake of forward-thinking and more circular business models, such as “green” product-service systems (PSS). Activities under this specific cooperation area could include research on the cost and sustainability benefits of “green” product-service systems, capacity building activities with the development of PSS training materials, guidance documents, and practical tools for public procurers, fostering dialogues with circular business models representatives to ensure common understanding of the issues at stake and foster exchange on PSS opportunities and the best ways of integrating them in public procurement practices, and pilot projects in the field of public procurement and circular economy, with the aim of strengthening the evidence base for the use and integration of PSS in SPP. Other potential areas of cooperation exist in the context of other Sub-Groups under the 10YFP SPP Programme, such as measuring and communicating benefits, use of ecolabels and standards, and collaborating with the private sector.
- Sustainable Food Systems (SFS), focused on the objective of wasted food recovery and diversion from landfills. The development of this program has drawn on the existing work of the FAO-UNEP Sustainable Food Systems Programme and of the Agri-food Task Force on SCP (“Taskforce”), of which the United States Government has been a member since its inception in 2011, through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Potential key activities could build on the substantive work and experience of existing projects in the United States, as well as future priorities, and be based on the following themes: Food loss and waste, building on existing activities to accelerate progress to reduce food loss and waste at local and national levels; support for efforts to divert food waste from landfills disposal to other beneficial applications such as animal feed, industrial uses including anaerobic digestion, and composting, reflecting preferred options outlined in the Food Recovery Hierarchy. Cooperation could also be considered in support of creating of enabling conditions to support effective governance, including capacity building for government officials and policy makers, in

order to facilitate policy development and dialogue, regulation, enforcement, and EIA processes in developing countries.

2b. International Resource Panel

The International Resource Panel (IRP) was launched by the United Nations Environment Programme in 2007 to build and share the knowledge needed to improve our use of resources worldwide. The Panel consists of eminent scientists, highly skilled in resource management issues. Their reports distil the latest scientific, technical and socio-economic findings around global resource use. They provide advice and connections between policymakers, industry and the community on ways to improve global and local resource management. The IRP brings together scientists and governments from both developed and developing regions, civil society, industrial and international organizations.

The objective of the IRP is to contribute to a better understanding of sustainable development from a natural resources perspective, providing science-based policy options on how to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation while enhancing human well-being. In order to achieve this, the IRP uses a systems approach to prepare independent, coherent and authoritative scientific studies and assessments of policy relevance on the sustainable use and management of natural resources and in particular their environmental impacts over the full life cycle.

This agreement will support continuing cooperation between U.S. EPA and UNEP in advancing the work of the IRP, including as it relates to and supports U.S. EPA's Sustainable Materials Management Strategic Plan for 2017-2022. This could include work to support efforts to globally measure environmental, economic, and social impacts from resource efficiency efforts; identify indicators and other benchmarks of progress towards achieving resource efficiency globally; perform research that supports global efforts to improve the lifecycle sustainability of the supply chains related to food, packaging, the built environment, and electronics; or perform research that supports efforts to expand lifecycle thinking among the business sector. First year activities will support the IRP's work with multilateral institutions to evaluate environmental, economic, and job impacts and benefits of resource efficiency activities. First year activities will support the IRP's work with multilateral institutions to evaluate environmental, economic, and job impacts and benefits of resource efficiency activities.

Focus Area 3: Implement and Support International Chemical and Waste Partnerships, Approaches, and Conventions

3a. Advancing the implementation of the Minamata Convention and the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership.

The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a global instrument to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury. The Convention was agreed at the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in Geneva, Switzerland on Saturday, 19 January 2013. The Convention will take effect on the 90th day after 50 countries become party to the Convention. The Convention draws attention to a global and ubiquitous neurotoxic metal that, has broad uses in everyday objects and is released to the atmosphere, soil and water from a variety of sources. Controlling the anthropogenic releases of mercury throughout its lifecycle has been a key factor in shaping the obligations under the Convention.

The Convention is supported by a number of activities, including the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership. The overall goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership is to protect human health and the global environment from the release of mercury and its compounds by minimizing and, where feasible, ultimately eliminating global, anthropogenic mercury releases to air, water and land.

Activities under this cooperative agreement will support this goal, focusing on the priority areas of the Partnership and the sectors and activities covered by the Convention, and include:

Assessment, Reporting, and Inventories of Global Mercury

Advancing the understanding of how mercury flows globally is key to measure implementation of the Convention and progress towards attaining the Partnership goals. Under this item, UNEP will work on ongoing and emerging efforts to collect and evaluate this information.

Specific projects under this activity may include work on the global mercury assessment and the UNEP trade report, product reports (including, as requested, financial, statistical, and trade-related reports), information, or partnership documents that support the objective and obligations of the Convention.

Technical Assistance to Nations for the Ratification and Implementation of the Convention

The major highlights of the Minamata Convention on Mercury include a ban on new mercury mines, the phase-out of existing ones, control measures on air emissions, restrictions on mercury-added products and processes, mercury risk reduction, and attention to the informal sector for artisanal and small-scale gold mining and the environmentally sound management of mercury waste and surplus mercury. UNEP will support countries in taking the necessary steps for ratification, and EPA may support as appropriate activities towards implementation.

One of the activities that EPA may support is the ASGM National Action Plan development, and, where possible, implementation activities. Specific projects may include materials, workshops, awareness-raising, and on the ground demonstrations. Examples of the types of activities that might occur could include technical conferences and demonstrations or pilots of mercury capture system implementation.

Task 3b. Support Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and the Basel, Stockholm, and Rotterdam Conventions

The SAICM is a policy framework to foster the sound management of chemicals, and the Basel, Stockholm, and Rotterdam Conventions address hazardous waste, persistent organic pollutants, and chemicals in trade, respectively. This cooperative agreement is meant to offer technical assistance as well as capacity building to implement these international agreements.

Specific projects under this activity may include demonstration projects, legal capacity building, research, technical conferences or papers, policy and other reports, or other activity as mutually agreed that supports the implementation of SAICM and the Conventions.

Chemical Accident Prevention and Preparedness Programmes

UNEP and US EPA have been working closely on improving chemical accident prevention and preparedness. US EPA provided long standing technical and financial support to the development and

implementation of the Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level (APELL) programme. Most recently US EPA supported UNEP in developing a guidance document for improving chemical accident prevention and preparedness in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. With the technical and financial support of the US EPA, UNEP initiated an international initiative and expert working group to address the issue. This collaboration led to the development of 'A Flexible Framework for Addressing Chemical Accident Prevention and Preparedness: A Guidance Document', published in 2010, and an Implementation Support Package, published in 2012. These guidance documents have now been translated into Arabic, French, Chinese, and Spanish. UNEP has also organised pilot projects to test the guidance documents in six pilot countries in Asia and Africa.

The overall goal of the Flexible Framework Initiative for Chemical Accident Prevention and Preparedness is to support governments in developing countries and countries in transition to establish and revise their chemical accidents prevention programmes. While chemical accidents – such as fires, explosions or toxic spillages- occur everywhere in the world with damaging consequences, developing countries often face significant risks due to the rapid scale of industrial development and the lack of infrastructure, capacity and enforcement of regulations that aim to prevent accidents.

The Guidance Document helps a country to assess its situation, gaps and needs and supports the development of a strategy that matches the level of risks and capacities in the country. Specific activities could include, but are not limited to providing technical and financial support for additional countries to assess their current situation with respect to chemical accidents, develop and deliver appropriate training sessions to authorities and industry (in support of multi-stakeholder collaboration); support the development of gap analyses, and strategies (Roadmap) for implementation; provide in-depth training to safety inspectors; and promote local level multi-stakeholder emergency preparedness efforts through information and experience sharing based on the US LEPC approach.

Encouraging Lead in Paint Legal Limits in a Target Country

Most developing countries do not have legal limits on lead in paint and therefore they have paints that contain lead additives. Through the Lead Paint Alliance, UNEP and EPA will collaborate on activities that support the broad objective of the Alliance to promote a phase-out of the manufacture and sale of paints containing lead. Among other activities, UNEP will be conducting a regional workshop to encourage governments to establish legal limits for lead in paint. From experience in the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV), EPA knows that following multi-national regional workshops, it is most effective to conduct additional activity at the national level to affect actual change on-the-ground. This project would support national-level work in a target country, with the potential to be a regional champion for this issue, to establish legal limits for lead in paint by providing technical assistance to selected country policy makers to draft regulations. This would be achieved by following up on the planned UNEP workshop in East Africa with assistance to develop regulations on lead in paint, testing of lead levels in paint, dust, or soil, and blood samples to raise the awareness of policy makers and the public of this issue. The results of the project would be utilized by the Lead Paint Alliance to catalyze similar efforts in other countries.

Partnering with UNEP, EPA would work with WHO, CDC and other partners in the Lead Paint Alliance to conduct work in one target country that has shown commitment to phasing out lead in paint. This project would support the development of lead paint regulations and the paint/dust/soil testing. WHO and CDC would be invited to provide blood lead level sampling expertise and tools.

Projects would be implemented by UNEP through a cooperative agreement with EPA. The funding for this project could leverage UNEP GEF funding for African countries (Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, and Tanzania), which has a regional focus and involves countries in addition to those directly specified by the GEF funding. EPA's funding would enable a focus on one of these additional countries that have been identified for regional project replication activities, e.g., Kenya.

Focus Area 4: Climate Change adaptation

EPA and UNEP consider work in the area of climate change to be an area of shared priority. This work includes efforts to minimize the threats posed by climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as well as actions to protect human health and help communities and ecosystems become more sustainable and resilient to the effects of climate change. Through this agreement, cooperation on climate change can include a range of topics and activities.

Task 4a: Support collaboration and capacity-building through the Global Adaptation Network

As a first activity under this Focus Area, EPA and UNEP will cooperate on enhancing capacity to build climate resilience and take adaptation actions locally, noting the involvement of sub-national entities, such as regions and city and local governments and stakeholders, as not only the first responders to climate change, but also having to address the needs of an increasingly large urban population as we approach 2030 and 2050. EPA has been working with urban and local networks such as ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) and the DAC (Durban Adaptation Charter), composed of elected city and local government officials, to facilitate the implementation of local adaptation actions and the building of local resilience, particularly in highly vulnerable developing country cities which may lack sufficient existing capacity to adapt and build resilience. EPA has also developed technical resources and tools that might assist subnational actors in implementing these actions, and UNEP is also engaged in support for local resilience efforts through its climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction work. It is expected that cooperative work on climate adaptation and resilience, especially at the sub-national scale in developing countries, between EPA and UNEP is an area where we anticipate increasing cooperation between 2015 and 2020.

As an initial activity, EPA and UNEP are beginning a collaboration, along with other countries and international organizations, on the Global Adaptation Network, of which UNEP serves as the Secretariat. Since 2015, EPA has also been working with the Global Adaptation Network (GAN) and its international partners, to implement its revised strategy to facilitate the delivery of adaptation knowledge and information from sources and producers of knowledge and information, in response to specific user-defined needs locally and regionally, a process the GAN has dubbed 'sustained learning exchanges'. Although a relatively new area of cooperation between EPA and UNEP, the GAN Secretariat, the GAN plans to initiate two pilot projects in 2016, and anticipates more in future years. This joint effort will support capacity building in the form of bringing relevant expertise, information and knowledge to where it is needed locally and regionally in order to catalyze local adaptation action and the building of resilience at regional, local, or national levels.

Focus Area 5: Protecting Ecosystems through Integrated Approaches to Ecosystem Management

In efforts to protect human health and the environment, EPA and UNEP will also cooperate on activities towards the protection of ecosystems, and water and marine ecosystems in particular. Collaboration in

this area may include strengthening countries' capacities to assess and value critical terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, as well as coastal and marine ecosystems, understand key threats to their integrity, and plan for their effective management, sustainable use and restoration. Activities may reflect an emphasis upon integrated ecosystem management, which focuses on sustaining ecosystems to meet both ecological and human needs in a manner that is responsive to changing needs and new information. This may also include collaboration through the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA), which was designed to address the accelerating degradation of the world's oceans and coastal areas by encouraging governments and regional organizations to prepare and implement comprehensive, continuing and adaptive action plans to protect the marine environment, recognizing the effects on food security, poverty alleviation, and ecosystem health, as well as the resulting economic and social benefits.

Task 5a: Trash Free Waters Initiative in the Caribbean

As an initial activity, EPA and UNEP will collaborate on an initiative aimed at bringing stakeholders together to identify priority needs and develop projects and activities that will help Jamaica and Panama control, reduce and prevent their land-based sources of trash/solid waste from entering waterways and polluting their coastal and marine environment. The focus of the work is on the environmentally sound management of waste streams that negatively impact inland waterways including streams, gullies, and rivers, coastal communities, and marine ecosystems. The successful implementation of the projects and activities developed will support these countries in meeting their obligations under the Land-Based Sources (LBS) Protocol to the Cartagena Convention to take measures to prevent, reduce, and control pollution of the Convention area from land-based sources and activities. Both Jamaica and Panama are Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol.

This initiative builds upon UNEP's Resource Efficiency efforts in the region to reduce waste generation in key sectors and integrate sound waste management tools with government agencies. UNEP's Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit (CAR/RCU) as Secretariat for the Cartagena Convention and LBS Protocol will further support this effort to address marine litter reduction and prevention as presented in the Caribbean Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter Management (RAPMALi). UNEP-CAR/RCU working in collaboration with the US EPA will promote synergies and coordination between various ongoing solid waste and marine litter projects and activities and assist each of the countries to develop a more integrated and cohesive approach to solid waste and marine litter management with a particular emphasis on local communities. The partner agencies will also work to promote a more consistent message to stakeholders and the general public concerning solid waste management.

This project will develop a public participation toolkit in each country, building on existing material, and which will serve as a framework for identifying solid waste management priorities and pilot projects that could be used to demonstrate best practices in integrated solid waste management in Jamaica and Panama. This work will come about as a result of stakeholder dialogues with government agencies, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to identify the most appropriate and cost-effective solutions to help prevent trash from entering waterways and the Caribbean Sea. This will involve working with the countries to identify trash sources, prioritize waste management needs, and facilitate policy making strategies toward better solid waste management practices that reduce littering and pollution of the environment.

UNEP-CAR/RCaU will guide the process and work with NGOs, CBOs and other stakeholders in the region to help implement these solid waste/marine litter management projects. As Secretariat for the LBS Protocol to the Cartagena Convention and co-host for the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter Management with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), CAR/RCU will work to ensure sustainability among the countries to address their solid waste management needs. They will also ensure that this project and other efforts are coordinated resulting in improved synergies and a compilation of best practices guidance for comprehensive solid waste management solutions that could be shared throughout the region.

This guidance will be consistent with Basel Convention guidelines for environmentally sound management of waste, UNEP's Global Partnership on Marine Litter under the Global Programme of Action, UNEP's Global Partnership on Solid Waste, MARPOL Convention of the Control of Ship-Generated Wastes including supporting the designation of the Caribbean Sea a Special Area under Annex V dealing with the discharge of garbage, and other relevant multilateral agreements and initiatives focusing on Sustainable Consumption and Production.

Specific Actions will include the Following:

- 1) Support planning and development of at least two stakeholder dialogue workshops in each country;
- 2) Outreach and education activities to media, civil society organizations, local and/or municipal government authorities to increase awareness about solid waste, its impacts on the environment and human health, management measures including new livelihood opportunities;
- 3) Support pilot projects that are identified through the stakeholder dialogue process;
- 4) Share results of the pilot projects with regional stakeholders and make available through the UNEP-CAR/RCU website.